

State of California
Commission on the Status of Women



Summary of 2004
Laws Affecting Women

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Introduction

The second year of the 2003/2004 session was once again dominated by California's fiscal deficit. Severe fiscal constraints meant that numerous proposals died in fiscal committees because of their potential cost to the State. As we approach the 05/06 session, the impact of budget cuts on programs and services for women and their families, particularly the underserved, will remain among the Commission's top priorities. Also of critical importance to our agency as well as many others will be the outcome of the Governor's California Performance Review recommendations for program cuts and major reorganization of government agencies, including the proposed elimination of the Commission.

Our 2004 legislative agenda included 60 priority bills — of the **32** bills that reached Governor Schwarzenegger's desk, he **signed 18 and vetoed 14**. The Commission also supported a number of Resolutions, 24 of which were approved by the Legislature (the Governor takes no final action on Resolutions). We **opposed 6** bills that would have negatively impacted a woman's right to choose, none of which reached the Governor.

Session highlights include the enactment of **AB 2404** by Assemblymember Darrell Steinberg, **co-sponsored by the Commission** and the American Civil Liberties Union. Patterned after federal Title IX provisions, AB 2404 will help **local governments provide fair and equitable treatment to both genders** in the administration of community athletic programs. Other important **measures signed by the Governor impact** access to health care; reproductive freedom; victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, sexual harassment in the workplace, CalWORKs recipients; victims of trafficking and child prostitution, incarcerated women, foster youth, and pregnant teens and their children.

On the downside, a number of significant bills we supported were vetoed. These include SB 1525 and 1555 (Speier) that would have increased women's access to **health care**; AB 358 (Jackson) that would have begun the implementation of the principles of **CEDAW** at the state level; and AB 2317 (Oropeza) that would have strengthened **equal pay** laws.

During 2004, the Commission monitored nearly 300 bills for potential impact on California women and their families. This "Summary" highlights those bills that were signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and become effective on January 1, 2004. If indicated as an "urgency" measure, the bill generally becomes effective immediately upon the Governor's signature. Resolutions, which do not have the force of law, are assigned a chapter number by the Secretary of State when passed by the Legislature, but do not require the Governor's signature. **The Commission's priority support measures are preceded by an *asterisk.**

Bill histories, committee analyses and voting records on any of these measures can be obtained by visiting www.leginfo.ca.gov. For more information on the Commission contact us at 916-445-3173, or visit our website at www.women.ca.gov.

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Child/Other Dependent Care

AB 72

Bates

Chapter 358**Child care providers**

Requires child care resource and referral programs to remove from their referral lists, within 2 days of notification, all licensed child care facilities that are on probation or are subject to temporary suspension orders.

AB 379

Mullin

Chapter 897**Family child care home education networks**

Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, when allocating funds for the expansion of infant and toddler programs, to consider the percentage of infants and toddlers in each county with working parents.

AB 1913

Cohn

Chapter 373**Foster care providers: evaluation and criminal record checks**

Clarifies existing law to ensure that counties are able to make emergency placements with family members by making clear that the standards used to determine eligibility of a "relative" caregiver shall be the same standards used to license foster family homes.

AB 1986

Wolk

Chapter 298**Placement of children: background checks**

Extends until January 2010 existing provisions that allow counties to issue a criminal records exemption for specified caretakers with a criminal record who meet specified standards, with the permission of the Department of Social Services.

AB 2205

Oropeza

Chapter 555**California Helping Heroes Child Care Program**

Creates the California Helping Heroes Child Care Program to provide child care to families who have one or more parents deployed to Iraq and meet other eligibility criteria. Implementation is contingent upon the availability of specified funding.

AB 2352

Jackson

Chapter 121**Residential care facilities for persons with chronic, life-threatening illness**

Expands the eligible population who can be served by residential care facilities to persons with a chronic life-threatening illness.

AB 2611

Simitian

Chapter 886**Elder and dependent adult abuse**

Increases criminal penalties related to elder and dependent adult abuse and makes them applicable to a person who knows or reasonably should know that the potential victim is an elder or dependent adult. Also separates financial abuse from the current statute providing enhanced civil remedies to victims of elder or dependent adult abuse,

and applies a preponderance of evidence standard of proof for the commission of financial abuse, instead of the current "clear and convincing evidence" standard.

AB 2661 Steinberg
Foster care

Chapter 643

Requires the owner or operator of a foster family home applying for certification to sign an application that includes a declaration as to the truth of the information submitted, including the applicant's certification and decertification status and history.

AB 3095 Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care
Crime

Chapter 893

Authorizes a court to require counseling as a condition of probation for persons convicted of specified crimes against elders and dependent adults. Additionally requires the defendant to pay the expense of his or her participation in the counseling program, as specified.

ACR 236 Correa
Child Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 197

Declares September 2004 as Child Awareness Month, encouraging organizations, agencies, and individuals engaged in the enhancement of children's well-being and health to hold or participate in events which increase public awareness of children's issues and provide opportunities for the public to donate time and resources to the cause.

* **SB 1178** Kuehl
Dependent children: parenting

Chapter 841

Enacts the Teen Parents in Foster Care Act and makes legislative findings and declarations regarding the need to provide resources and support to dependent teens and their children.

* **SB 1413** Brulte
Abandoned newborns: safe surrender: liability

Chapter 103

Prohibits, under certain circumstances, a person from being held liable for civil damages as a result of helping someone surrender physical custody of a child to a "safe-surrender" site.

SB 1612 Speier
Foster care and child welfare services: funding

Chapter 845

Requires the State Department of Social Services to amend the foster care state plan, required under federal law, to allow specific federal funds to match county expenditures for subsidizing child care services to foster parents.

SB 1662 Soto
Residential care facilities for the elderly: rates

Chapter 401

Requires residential care facilities to advise a resident of a change of rate within two days if a care plan change causes a rate increase.

SCR 60 Battin
Child Abuse Prevention Month

Resolution Chapter 61

Acknowledges the month of April 2004 as Child Abuse Prevention Month, encouraging individuals to work together to support youth-serving child abuse prevention activities in their communities and schools.

SCR 82 Scott
Foster Care Month

Resolution Chapter 91

Proclaims May 2004 as Foster Care Month and urges all citizens to volunteer their talents and energies on behalf of children in foster care, their foster and kinship parents, and the child welfare and legal professionals working in California.

Economic Security

AJR 66 Lieber
Equal Pay Day

Resolution Chapter 38

Proclaims April 20, 2004, as Equal Pay Day and urges Congress to protect the fundamental right of all American women to receive equal pay for equal work and to continue to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex.

SB 279 Chesbro
Public postsecondary education: excuse of tuition and fees

Chapter 32

Extends provision that excuses undergraduate fees and tuition of the University of California and the California State University for any spouse or child of a contractor, or an employee of a contractor, who was killed in the performance of active law enforcement or active fire suppression and prevention duties.

* **SB 1156** Alarcón
Microenterprise

Chapter 87

Encourages access to microenterprise development in order to create new jobs and income opportunities for individuals of low- and moderate-income.

SB 1245 Kuehl
California State University: Entry-Level Master's Nursing Programs Act

Chapter 718

Requires the Chancellor of the California State University, in consultation with the Board of Registered Nursing, to determine which campuses are eligible for supplemental funds for the establishment of entry-level master's programs in nursing.

*** SB 1639** Alarcón

Chapter 668

CalWORKs recipients: education and training

Increases access to quality, language-accessible education and training programs for low-income parents and foster youth in California.

*** SJR 15** Alarcón

Resolution Chapter 31

Federal poverty level

Requests the President and Congress to ensure that the United States is working to meet the basic needs of all families, to begin a process to better calculate the federal poverty level, and to use existing models to calculate poverty, including geographical costs of living.

Education

AB 1858 Steinberg

Chapter 914

Foster children: education

Requires the State Department of Education to ensure that the California School Information Services system meets the needs of pupils in foster care and includes disaggregated data on pupils in foster care. Places new requirements on nonpublic schools which provide special education to foster youth who reside in licensed children's institutions and foster family homes.

Employment

*** AB 1825** Reyes

Chapter 933

Sexual harassment: training and education

Requires employers with 50 or more employees to provide 2 hours of training and education in sexual harassment to all supervisory employees within one year, starting January 1, 2005, unless they have provided such training after August 1, 2003. After January 1, 2006, employers are required to provide training and education to each supervisory employee once every 2 years.

AB 2900 Laird

Chapter 788

Employment: discrimination

Creates a comprehensive and single legal standard for employment discrimination by standardizing protected classes of individuals to those outlined in the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA). Protected classes include race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical ability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, or sexual orientation. Whenever an additional protected class is added to FEHA's employment provisions, these non-discrimination laws will be updated automatically.

Equality

AB 1920 La Malfa
Civil rights: interference

Chapter 115

Clarifies existing law to help ensure that the act of burning a cross or desecrating a religious symbol on the private property of another person in order to intimidate or terrorize that person can be prosecuted as a felony.

***AB 2404** Steinberg
Discrimination: athletic programs

Chapter 852

Prohibits gender discrimination by cities or counties in the administration of community youth athletic programs and in the allocation of parks and recreation facilities and resources that support such programs and activities.

AB 2580 Goldberg
Domestic partnerships

Chapter 947

Makes technical changes to the California Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act to clarify, among other things, that its provisions apply to domestic partners registered with the State. Also designates “the date of registration of the domestic partnership” as the equivalent of the “date of marriage” as it relates to the rights or duties of the partners.

ACR 161 Oropeza
California Girls and Women in Sports Week

Resolution Chapter 12

Proclaims February 2-6, 2004, as California Girls and Women in Sports Week, commemorating the accomplishments of female athletes, coaches, officials, and sports administrators.

ACR 165 Jerome Horton
Black History Month

Resolution Chapter 13

Recognizes February 2004 as Black History Month, urging all citizens to join in celebrating the accomplishments of African-Americans during Black History Month.

ACR 227 Chu
Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month

Resolution Chapter 75

Commends Asian and Pacific Islander Americans for their notable accomplishments and outstanding service to the State and recognizes May 2004 as Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month.

AJR 60 Lieber
Immigration: same-sex partners

Resolution Chapter 192

Requests the President and the Congress to adopt the Permanent Partners Immigration Act (PPIA) of 2003. This act adds the phrase “or permanent partner” to sections of the immigration law that provides immigration rights to legally married

couples and would allow gay and lesbian citizens to sponsor their partners as US residents.

AJR 85 Leno
Same-sex couples

Resolution Chapter 172

Respectfully opposes any federal enactment designed to prohibit or restrict the provision of rights and obligations under the law for same-sex couples and their families.

AJR 96 Liu
Women's Equality Day

Resolution Chapter 193

Requests Congress and the President to uphold protections of women's equality and to encourage all Americans to participate in the celebration of Women's Equality Day on August 26, 2004, the 84th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment, giving women the right to vote.

* **SB 1234** Kuehl
Crimes: civil rights

Chapter 700

Creates a uniform definition of "hate crime" and enhances protection for all persons associated with protected classes.

Family Law

* **AB 252** Jackson
Paternity judgments

Chapter 849

Authorizes a court to set aside a voluntary declaration of paternity unless it determines that denial of such action is in the best interest of the child.

AB 782 Kehoe
Court records: family law

Chapter 45

Establishes procedures for keeping the location or identifying information about the assets and liabilities of the parties in a dissolution matter sealed. Repeals existing provisions which allow social security numbers to be kept in a confidential portion of the court files, and instead allows a petitioner or respondent to redact social security numbers from pleadings, attachments, documents, or other material filed with the court.

* **AB 2018** Chu
Domestic violence: civil damages

Chapter 299

Would provide that in divorce proceedings, if there is a judgment for civil damages for an act of domestic violence, the court may enforce that judgment against the abusive spouse's share of community property.

AB 2148 Diaz
Family law proceedings

Chapter 472

Authorizes the court in specified custody, visitation and support proceedings to order one party to pay the attorney fees and costs of the other party based on need. Requires the court to order spousal and child support to a petitioner, after notice and hearing, in domestic violence actions.

AB 2358 Steinberg
Enforcement of support orders

Chapter 806

Changes existing procedures to help improve collection of child support and assist in the implementation of the California Child Support Automation System (CCSAS), including the transfer of certain responsibilities from the Franchise Tax Board to the Department of Child Support Services. Among other things, requires all employers who must pay state tax and unemployment withholding by electronic fund transfer to also make child support payments by electronic fund transfer.

AB 2669 Garcia
Enforcement of support orders

Chapter 305

Makes various reforms in child support collections and calculations, including a provision requiring that after child support is first credited against the current month's support, the money shall next be credited against the principal before the interest owed.

AB 2807 Steinberg
Minors

Chapter 810

Revises provisions requiring the court to review the status of a dependent child in foster care. Among other things, specifies that the court shall make appropriate orders enabling a child who is 10 or older and has been in a group home placement for 6 months or longer from the date he or she entered foster care, to maintain relationships with other individuals who are important to the child, consistent with the child's best interests.

SB 1357 Scott
Foster care and adoption

Chapter 858

Provides that if a presumed father waives the right to notice in writing, as specified, no notice, relinquishment for, or consent to adoption shall be required from him for the adoption to proceed.

SB 1407 Kuehl
Community property: separate property contributions

Chapter 119

Authorizes reimbursement for separate property contributions to the acquisition of property of the other spouse's separate property estate, including assets or debts of the other spouse, unless the intent to make a gift or waive the right to reimbursement has been executed in writing.

Health

AB 1959 Chu
State Auditor: drugs

Chapter 938

Requires the State Auditor to conduct an audit of specified state agencies procurement and reimbursement practices for the purchase of drugs.

AB 2049 Nakanishi
Fetal ultrasound

Chapter 78

Requires a person or facility that offers fetal ultrasound, or a similar procedure, for keepsake or entertainment purposes, to disclose in writing that the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not approve the use of ultrasound equipment for these purposes.

* **AB 2151** Jackson

Chapter 851

Medi-Cal: reimbursement rates: community and free clinics

Codifies current Medi-Cal regulations to provide that community and free clinics must be reimbursed for take-home drugs and supplies at the "usual charges made to the general public" as long as those charges are lower than the reimbursement rates for retail pharmacies.

* **AB 2208** Kehoe

Chapter 488

Health care and insurance benefits

Requires health care plans and insurers to provide coverage to a registered domestic partner of an employee, subscriber, insured, or policyholder that is equal to the coverage provided to a spouse.

AB 2301 Maze

Chapter 57

Health care for indigents: reports

Eliminates the requirement for counties to submit quarterly and estimated annual reports under the California Health Care for Indigents Program.

AB 2342 Jackson

Chapter 678

Drinking water: public health goals

Requires the Office of Environmental Health Hazards Assessment, within the California Environmental Protection Agency, to give special consideration to water contaminants that affect infants and children in reviewing and revising Public Health Goals.

AB 2682 Negrete McLeod

Chapter 887

Pharmacy: out-of-state wholesalers

Requires the Board of Pharmacy to adopt regulations governing out-of-state drug wholesalers and make them subject to the same requirements as in-state wholesalers.

ACR 146 Chan
Women's Heart Health

Resolution Chapter 11

Recognizes February 2004 as American Heart Month in order to raise the awareness of the effects of heart disease on women. Recognizes February 6, 2004 as Wear Red for Women Day.

ACR 153 Montañez
Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 8

Recognizes January 2004 as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, declaring the resolve of the Legislature to encourage and promote the efforts of people and health care practitioners in the State to increase awareness about cervical cancer.

ACR 169 Koretz
Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorder Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 46

Proclaims the month of May 2004 as Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorder Awareness Month in California, declaring various ways to identify mothers-to-be who are at risk and ways to effectively facilitate a mothers recovery. Declares the State Department of Health Services and the State Department of Mental Health should work together to explore ways to improve women's access to mental health care, facilitate increased awareness and education about postpartum mood and anxiety disorders, and improve the availability of effective treatment and support services.

ACR 186 Frommer
Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 23

Proclaims the month of March 2004 as "Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month."

ACR 207 Chan
School health

Resolution Chapter 71

Proclaims May 12, 2004 as School Nurse Day.

ACR 223 Cohn
Women's Health Month

Resolution Chapter 81

Proclaims the month of May as Women's Health Month.

ACR 225 Cohn
Breast cancer

Resolution Chapter 177

Designates the month of October 2004 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 15, 2004 as Breast Examination and Mammography Awareness Day.

AJR 53 Reyes
The Breast Cancer Research Stamp Program

Resolution Chapter 130

Requires the President and Congress to enact legislation to make the Breast Cancer Research Stamp Program permanent.

AJR 61 Ridley-Thomas
Prescription drugs

Resolution Chapter 111

Requests the US Secretary of Health and Human Services to certify to Congress that implementation of provisions of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003, which permits the importation of prescription drugs from Canada, will pose no additional risk to the public's health and safety and will result in significant reduction in cost.

AJR 62 Ridley-Thomas
Prescription drugs

Resolution Chapter 112

Calls upon the California delegation of the US Senate and House of Representatives to sponsor and support legislation to repeal any Medicare provision in the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 that would prohibit the federal government from negotiating fair prescription drug prices.

AJR 68 Parra
Federal child nutrition programs

Resolution Chapter 101

Requests Congress to eliminate the Reduced Price School Meals category and instead expand the Free School Meals category in federal child nutrition programs in order to provide free meals for all children whose family is below 185% of the applicable family size income level.

AJR 70 Garcia
HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment for women

Resolution Chapter 98

Requests the President and Congress to respond to the growing risk of women contracting, and the increased numbers of women who have contracted, HIV/AIDS by providing more funding for prevention, outreach, and treatment programs.

SB 142 Alpert
Genetic testing

Chapter 687

Allows the Department of Health Services one additional month (from July 1, 2005 to August 1, 2005) before being required to expand newborn genetic screening through a competitive bid process.

SB 785 Ortiz
Medi-Cal: managed health care plan option

Chapter 389

Requires the Department of Health Services, when federal funding is available, to modify the Medi-Cal mail-in and single point-of-entry application forms to allow applicants in counties served by managed health care plans to use the Health Care Options toll-free phone number to request enrollment materials before a Medi-Cal eligibility determination has been made.

SB 1159 Vasconcellos
Hypodermic needles and syringes

Chapter 608

Permits a pharmacist or physician to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes for human use without a prescription.

*** SB 1196** Cedillo
Health care applications

Chapter 729

Authorizes sharing of the National School Lunch Program application for purposes of determining eligibility for the Healthy Families Program and any other county- or locally-sponsored health insurance programs when a child does not meet Medi-Cal eligibility requirements, and if the parent or guardian has consented to sharing of information.

SCR 42 Soto
Women in Pain Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 29

Declares the month of February as Women in Pain Awareness Month, recognizing the important need to raise awareness concerning gender disparity in pain assessment and treatment in the United States.

SCR 57 Margett
"Go Red for Women Day"

Resolution Chapter 15

Proclaims February 6, 2004, as Go Red for Women Day in California, encouraging all Californians to wear red on that day in support of women whose lives have been touched by heart disease or stroke.

SCR 94 Ortiz
Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 186

Recognizes September 2004 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, encouraging and promoting efforts of individuals and health care practitioners to increase their awareness of this disease.

SJR 24 Ortiz
Pharmaceutical advertising

Resolution Chapter 139

Requests the President and Congress to recognize the problems caused by direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs by pharmaceutical companies and take specified actions in the regulation of consumer advertising of prescription drugs.

SJR 25 Ortiz
Medicare prescription drugs

Resolution Chapter 168

Requests the President and Congress to enact and sign into law specified revisions to the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003.

Reproductive Freedom

AB 1925 Haynes **Chapter 323**

Comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention instruction

Requires a school district to notify the parent or guardian if comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention instruction will be taught by outside consultants, or if that instruction is to be provided through an assembly with guest speakers, no fewer than 14 days in advance of the instruction.

AJR 57 Jackson **Resolution Chapter 50**

Reproductive rights: Roe v. Wade

Requests the President and Congress to stand firm in their resolve to uphold the intent and substance of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade.

* **SB 1590** Dunn **Chapter 922**

Public records: personal information

Prohibits disclosure of personal information received, collected, or compiled by certain public agencies regarding employees, volunteers, board members, officers, or contractors of a reproductive health facility.

Violence

AB 141 Cohn **Chapter 116**

Domestic violence: evidence

Expands the definition of domestic violence for purposes of allowing the introduction of evidence of prior acts to include incidents of child abuse.

AB 488 Parra **Chapter 745**

Sex offenders

Provides that on or before July 1, 2005, sex offender registration information will be disseminated on-line through the California Department of Justice website.

AB 1667 Kehoe **Chapter 368**

Criminal procedure

Extends the statute of limitations in criminal child molestation cases from 10 years from the date of the crime to age 30 of the victim. After age 30, victims will also have one year from the date of reporting the crime to law enforcement to file charges if there is corroborating evidence.

AB 1793 Yee **Chapter 630**

Video games: ratings

Requires video game retailers to post signs regarding the availability of a video game ratings system and make brochures available that explain the system.

AB 2010 Hancock
Alameda and Solano Counties: domestic violence

Chapter 830

Authorizes the Boards of Supervisors of Alameda and Solano Counties, until January 1, 2010, to increase fees, up to a maximum increase of \$2, for certified copies of marriage certificates, birth certificates, fetal death records, and death records. The increased fees would fund governmental oversight and coordination of domestic violence prevention, intervention, and prosecution efforts in the county.

AB 2160 Reyes
Foreign prosecution

Chapter 517

Creates, within the Department of Justice, the Foreign Prosecution and Law Enforcement Unit to assist local law enforcement agencies with foreign prosecutions, child abduction recoveries and returns under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

AB 2428 Chu
Hate crimes: release conditions

Chapter 809

Imposes conditions of probation, parole, and outpatient release on persons convicted of specified "hate crimes" and for the commission of any other crime motivated by hate. Requires a court that grants probation under any of these to make specified efforts to protect the victim and immediate family or domestic partner of the victim.

AB 2829 Bogh
Rape: evidence: sexual conduct

Chapter 61

Requires that any evidence of a victim's previous sexual conduct be filed under seal unless and until the court determines that such evidence is admissible. Information will only be made public if it is used as evidence in a court proceeding.

AB 2873 Garcia
Child abuse prevention: citizens review panel

Chapter 350

Conforms state law to federal law regarding the establishment and duties of a child abuse citizen review panel.

*** AB 3042** Yee
Sentencing

Chapter 769

Provides that any person with a felony conviction for a specified offense involving unlawful sexual intercourse, sodomy, lewd and lascivious acts, and oral copulation with a minor for money or other consideration is punishable by an additional one-year term of imprisonment in state prison.

ACR 148 Cohn
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 173

Proclaims the month of October 2004 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

ACR 149 Cohn
Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day

Resolution Chapter 174

Proclaims October 6, 2004, as Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day.

ACR 194 Chu
Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Resolution Chapter 34

Proclaims that the month of April be designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month from this point forward.

AJR 55 Reyes
Violence Against Children Act of 2003

Resolution Chapter 136

Requests Congress to pass and the President to sign the Violence Against Children Act of 2003 as soon as possible. The Act, among other things, toughens federal criminal penalties for crimes against children, provides assistance to local police and prosecutors to combat crimes against children, provides emergency medical treatment and counseling to victims and their families, and establishes the National Amber Alert System.

AJR 64 Chu
Bias-motivated crimes

Resolution Chapter 93

States that the Legislature is concerned by the number of bias-motivated crimes against Arab-Americans, Muslim-Americans, South Asian-Americans, and Sikh-Americans and other Americans and calls upon local, state, and federal law enforcement authorities to work to prevent bias-motivated crimes and to investigate and prosecute vigorously all such crimes.

SB 914 Bowen

URGENCY

Chapter 840

State Department of Health Services: domestic violence prevention and grant programs

Among other things, states legislative intent that certain grant programs for domestic violence and sexual assault victims be consolidated within one state government office. Also establishes a funding and appeal process for the Office of Emergency Services to use in distributing grant awards to domestic violence and rape crisis centers.

SB 1313 Kuehl
Child abuse reporting

Chapter 842

Enacts numerous reforms recommended in a March 2004 report by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act Task Force including: (1) clarifies that Court-Appointed Special Advocate volunteers are mandated reporters, (2) clarifies that irrespective of whether an employer provides training, the employer shall be required to provide mandated reporter employees with a statement that the employee must sign acknowledging he or she is a mandated reporter, (3) revises the evidentiary

requirement for a "substantiated report" of child abuse or neglect; and, (4) Clarifies provision requiring notification of willful infliction of mental suffering and authorizes reporting when circumstances fall short of that standard.

*** SB 1385** Burton
Battering and its effects

Chapter 609

Expands the class of survivors eligible to file a petition for review of their case based on "battered women's syndrome" to include those who committed any crime so long as the abuse is directly related to the act, as well as abused women whose offenses occurred prior to August 29, 1996.

SB 1391 Romero
Domestic violence

Chapter 250

Requires a person subject to a domestic violence protective order to relinquish any firearm within 24 hours of the service of the order.

*** SB 1441** Kuehl
Domestic violence: victims

Chapter 159

Gives victims of domestic violence the right to have a domestic violence advocate and a support person of his or her choosing present at any interview by law enforcement authorities, district attorneys, or defense attorneys.

SB 1484 Ackerman
Disorderly conduct

Chapter 666

Creates a new disorderly conduct misdemeanor for concealed filming or photographing of a person in a state of undress, including where a roommate or cohabitant filmed, photographed or recorded the victim.

SB 1678 Dunn
Statutes of limitations: damages: sexual abuse of a minor

Chapter 741

Revives for one-year, beginning January 1, 2005, the statute of limitations on civil claims against perpetrators of child sexual abuse, under specified circumstances.

Women in Prison

AB 129 Cohn
Juvenile court: dual status children

Chapter 468

Authorizes a county probation department and child welfare department to create a dual status protocol for a minor who is both a dependent child and a ward of the juvenile court.

*** AB 1530** Negrete McLeod
Prisoners: community treatment program

Chapter 297

Requires the State Department of Corrections to admit to a community treatment program any applicant who meets admission criteria, whose child was born prior to her incarceration, or who is pregnant.

*** AB 1796** Leno
Food stamps: eligibility

Chapter 932

Allows persons with felony convictions involving possession or use of drugs to qualify for aid under the Food Stamp Program.

AB 1901 Ridley-Thomas
Probation: education

Chapter 74

Establishes the "Ex-Offender Literacy Act." and expands the definition of success in an existing probation education pilot program to include improvement of academic performance by three grade levels.

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